[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.

practice are loyally accepted within the precincts of the House. Ordinary rules of Parliamentary practice require that all rulings by the Chair should be accepted without question ; otherwise, it is impossible for such Parliamentary bodies to get on. If the rulings, as such, of the President, are objected to and walk-outs are started as protest against rulings, it would be impossible to maintain decorum and order in this House consistently with the traditions of Parliamentary practice.

This matter has arisen not only in the Parliament but also in the Legislative Assembly ; and definite rulings are available to show the very clear distinction between rulings of the Chairman and statements by persons representing or purporting to speak on behalf of the Government. As such distinction might not have been before the minds of the Honourable members when they staged the walk-out yesterday, I want to make it clear. I trust that hereafter, for the purpose of observing the rules which all of us cherish so much, and for the purpose of maintaining the diginity of the House which I know every one of us wishes to maintain, the rulings of the Chair will be obeyed without a protest or walk-out.

AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDERS.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : I beg to move that, in view of the report of the Select Committee, the matter need not be proceeded with further and may be recorded as such, and that we pass on to the next item of business on the agenda.

MR. R. KRISHNASWAMI ROW : I second it.

PRESIDENT : The Select Committee has come to the practically unanimous conclusion that the present sitting hours of the Assembly may continue. In those circumstances, the Legal Remembrancer moves that we pass on to the next item in the order of business

The motion was put to vote and carried.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE HINDU WIDOWS REMARRIAGE BILL.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA : I beg to move that the Travancore Hindu Widow Remarriage Bill as amended and passed by the Sri Chitra State Council be taken up for consideration.

The amendment that they have made is to the following effect :

"Add the following as explanation to clause (1) :

"Unless there be anything repugnant in the text, the term "Hindu" means any person governed by Hindu Law."

MR. M. RAMAIAH PILLAI : I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Under Rule 46 the President has to put the amendment to the vote of this Chamber. Now that the amendment has been carried, the Bill as amended has been accepted by this Chamber ; and a message that this House has passed the Bill as

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

amended by the Sri Chitra State Council has to be sent by the Secretary to the Assembly to the Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

PRESIDENT : The message will be sent in due course.

THE TRAVANCORE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT BILL.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA : Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill, and beg to move that the Bill, as revised by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

MR. M. RAMAIAH PILLAI : I second it.

MR. P. S. NILAKANTA AIYAR : Under Standing order No. 41 (2), I move that the Bill be recommitted to a fresh Select Committee.

Sir, this is an important piece of legislation which vitally affects existing religious usages of certain communities. Sir, although there were two members nominated from among the members of the Tamil Brahmin community which is the most important community affected by this Bill, for some reason or other, the report of the Select Committee does not make mention of their names. It is therefore clear that the views of the Brahmin community which those two gentlemen were expected to represent have not been placed before the Select Committee at all. Mr. Ramasubba Sastri and myself were co-opted for the purpose of this Bill only later, and we have had no opportunity to put forth the views of our community before the Select Committee.

Moreover also judging from the number of amendments tabled including some by the mover herself after she has appended her signature to the Select committee report without any reservation—it is clear that the matter has not been discussed fully by the Select Committee. It is therefore better that the whole question is reconsidered by the Select Committee.

Mr. R. Ramasubba Sastri: Stood up to speak.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : May I know from the member, whether he objects to the principle of the Bill, that is to say, the Restraint of Child Marriage Bill?

MR. R. RAMASUBBA SASTRI : I cannot at this stage say that. At least one particular community wants exemption from the provisions of this Bill. I have sent notice of an amendment to that effect. I would like the motion for recommittal moved by my friend Mr. P. S. Nilacanta Aiyar to be accepted by the House. The great difficulty in reference to this matter is that the Tamil Brahmins in the State did not take part in the deliberations of the Select Committee and for some reason or other no name of any person belonging to the Tamil Brahmin community is appended in the Select Committee report. This is a very controversial question relating to a very important section of the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja. It depends mainly upon important theological and religious grounds and I have to submit that I would like the House seriously to feel that if the Tamil Brahmin father or guardian does not perform the Kannikadanam while the girl

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly